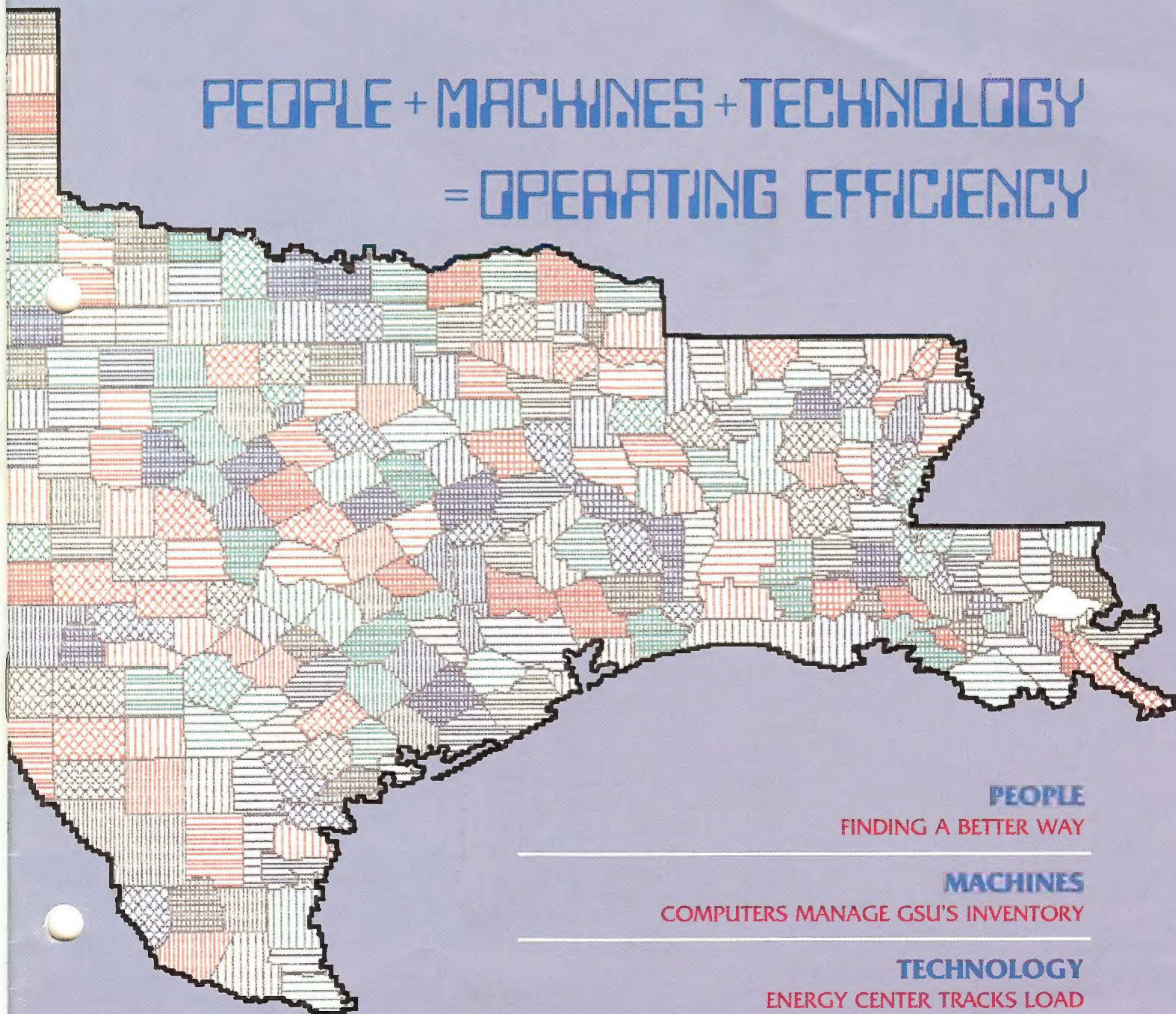


# PLAIN TALKS

July / August  
1983

PEOPLE + MACHINES + TECHNOLOGY  
= OPERATING EFFICIENCY



## PEOPLE

FINDING A BETTER WAY

## MACHINES

COMPUTERS MANAGE GSU'S INVENTORY

## TECHNOLOGY

ENERGY CENTER TRACKS LOAD

# MAIL BOX

## THE COVER

This issue of *Plain Talks* looks at how people, machines and technology join together to promote operating efficiency at Gulf States. The cover, by Robert Beattie, illustrates how computers can be used efficiently to draw a printout of Texas and Louisiana.

Mr. John Conley, Vice  
President-Western Division

Dear Mr. Conley,

My neighbors and I in River Plantation were without power for 24 hours. All of us had freezers full of food which had begun to thaw. One of my buddies, Charles Fennell, drove over to New Caney and explained our plight to Dick Landry. He was kind enough to provide each family with a chunk of precious Gulf States dry ice which saved our food.

I am writing this note on behalf of 14 grateful neighbors to thank you for this generous and thoughtful service.

Sincerely,  
Charlie Lewis

Mr. K. C. Gerstenberg  
Gulf States Utilities Service  
Center  
Beaumont, Tx.

Dear Mr. Gerstenberg,

I would like to thank you for allowing Mrs. Earline Brown, electrical engineer with your company, to come to our school and speak to the Occupational Investigation classes. Our students enjoyed her account of the education, training and experiences of an engineer, and they were most attentive as she related facts about Gulf States.

Employers like you who permit your employees to come to our classroom also have a part in

giving our students a realistic application of the material we are studying in class. We do appreciate your cooperation in providing this learning experience for us.

Sincerely,  
Jo Ann Hignett, Teacher  
Occupational Investigation

Mrs. Sue Williams  
Port Arthur, Texas

Dear Mrs. Williams,

Thank you very much for all you have done for me in connection with the GSU Essay Contest. First and foremost, thank you for the savings bonds. I am going to Texas A&M to major in biology, and the thought that the money will be waiting for me someday is a comfort. Also, I appreciate your appearance at Awards Day. It meant a great deal to me for someone to personally present the award.

Lastly, I want to express my gratitude to GSU in general for the things it has done for my family. I am proud to accept an award from such a fine organization!  
Sincerely,  
Ben Barnett

Mr. Bruce Nolen, Supervisor  
Baton Rouge, La.

Dear Mr. Nolen,

I must write and express to you my complete satisfaction with the energy audit made on my home yesterday by Debra Patin. My husband and I were greatly impressed by her professional capabilities, her personal interest in helping people to seriously consider conserving energy and her delightful attitude toward her work.

I had not expected so thorough an "investigation" or so many good tips on measures that we can take to save energy (and \$\$) in our home.  
Sincerely,  
Cay Lignos

## PLAIN TALKS

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Employees who change residences or offices should fill out company mailing-address-change forms (GSU0012-00-81) and return them to the mailroom in the Edison Plaza. GSU publications, departmental mailings and other company information are not automatically forwarded; addresses must be corrected when employees move.

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# Service Award Banquets 1983

## Western Division

### System



**40 Years:** Ed Loggins and Archie Whitson. Standing: Emma Dru McMickin.



**20 Years:** From left: Joe Donnelly, Ed Loggins, William R. Bryant Jr., Ronald Cunningham, Elizabeth Walker, Calvin Hebert, Jean Spitznagle, Joe Bondurant and Norman Lee.



**30 Years:** From left to right: John W. Conley, Floyd Langlois, J. W. Jackson, Jerry Fryer and Robert Yates.



**30 Years:** Front row, left to right: George Hayes, Howard Gale, Harold Johnson, Ike Simms Jr., Alice Maldonado, Ed Loggins. Back row, from left: Dr. E. Linn Draper, Grady Smith, Ray Kearney, Roy Jordan, Muriel Smiley and Don Clawson.



**10 Years:** From left to right: Ed Loggins, Joe Donnelly, Norman Lee, Betty Weiblinger, William H. Douglas, Marlene Belk, Chris Menzel, Audrey S. Evans, David Smythia, Virginia Goble, James G. Hancock, Phyllis Liddle, James McLaughlin, Robert W. Dowies, Barbara Wood, Dennis Pitman and Joe Bondurant.



**20 Years:** From left to right: Betty T. Dickschat and John W. Conley.



**10 Years:** left to right: Conley, Mike Rachal, Robert Bowling, Clarence Fowler, Blaine Page, Paul Mosley and Myrl Heath. Back row, left to right: David Kovach, Earnest Rucker, Jerry McHam, H. W. Newman and Tommy Kyle.

## Beaumont Division



**40 Years:** From left to right: Nobie T. Alford, Helen C. Cunningham and Arden D. Loughmiller.



**30 Years:** Front row, left to right: Glenn B. Haines, Leonard W. DeSaw, Robert W. Cooksley, Bennie L. Bruce and Donald L. Tingen. Middle row, left to right: Gene K. Teel, Jack E. Strickland, Nathaniel Stephens and Fred J. Roffman. Back row, left to right: Andrew McCurley Jr. and Loughmiller.



**20 Years:** From left to right: Guerry W. Weathers, David Thomas, Dorothy W. Nowell and Loughmiller.



**10 Years:** Front row, left to right: Carolyn L. Watson, Jo Anne M. Landry, Oliver Lacy Jr., Benjamin W. Ketcherside, Kathy L. Bourgeois and Janet F. Thomas. Back row, left to right: Robert Louniere, Stephen S. Williams, Philip M. Martin, John A. Mitchell, Gerald W. Mercer and Loughmiller.

# ECC: Meeting load demand requirements

by T.J. Reyes

Meeting the requirements of our load demand is no simple job. Residential, commercial and industrial use of lights, appliances and machinery can be unpredictable. Gulf States must do more than just produce that electricity. A number of decisions must be made on the most efficient, reliable and economical way to meet the fluctuating demand for energy. Which fuel to use and where to burn it must be compared with power purchased from other utilities. All of this is constantly monitored to adjust to the load demand as it fluctuates. This is the basic responsibility of the Energy Control Center.

After 40 years, the Energy Control Center outgrew its original home on the second floor of the Travis Street substation in Beaumont. So, in 1964, the then-latest in electrical generation control equipment was installed in the basement of the Liberty-Pearl Building. Although the Energy Control Center is still there today, construction work on a new, state-of-the-art center is near completion. The third and fourth floors of that building will be the new workplace for system operators who will staff GSU's new Energy Control Center in 1985.

For 24 hours a day, seven days a week, system operators work in the Energy Control Center monitoring GSU's transmission and generation system. Their goal is to balance the load demand with the most efficient energy supply. "Our energy supply includes all of the fuels GSU uses, plus power purchased from other utilities when it is cheaper than power Gulf States can generate itself," says Leroy Bodemann, director of engineering services and project manager for GSU's new energy management system.



*System operators, using a multiple interactive crt console similar to this arrangement, will economically dispatch power throughout the GSU system.*

A schematic mapboard, 80 feet wide and 14 feet high, in the new Energy Control Center will depict the GSU operating system. Small lights on the board will indicate which power plants and transmission lines are activated. Tie-lines or connections with other utilities will be shown on the map, also. With an eye on the future, the map will be made of 1-inch square tiles that can be rearranged as the system's configuration changes.

The Control Center will interface with a Division Control Center in each of our five operating divisions. The Division Control Center will monitor the transmission and distribution systems, plus control key substation equipment. Each Division Control Center will be capable of operating as a member of the computer network or of working on a stand-alone basis. As a stand-alone system, the computer will be able to perform supervisory control and data acquisition (SCADA) functions. In addition, the Beaumont Division Control Center will serve as a back-up for the Energy Control Center, if needed.

Also, there will be over 200 remote terminal units in substations and power plants across the GSU system which will provide operating information to the system network.

Construction work on the new Energy Control Center is scheduled for completion by the end of 1983. A thorough testing of the computer equipment will begin in early 1984 and continue throughout 1984.

"Our transmission system has grown large over the years while the availability and cost of the fuel to make power for our customers has become very unpredictable. The dependence on other utilities to provide additional power when we need it adds to the complexity of system operations," says Charles Byars, director of power system control.

When fully operational in 1985, the new Energy Control Center will allow GSU to analyze all of the variables needed to make appropriate decisions to operate a reliable electric system and produce energy in the most economical and efficient way for our customers.

# Fun, facts highlight retiree meet

It was an opportunity to renew old friendships and make new ones as some 190 Gulf States retirees gathered June 23 for the annual system-wide meeting. Members from all five retiree clubs convened at the Lake Charles Civic Center for a day of entertainment, friendly conversation and information about Gulf States.

Emcee Walter House guided things along, starting with a singalong of old favorite songs such as "Let Me Call You Sweetheart" and "The Old Grey Mare." Later, ventriloquist Laura Calloway and her "friend" Alex entertained the crowd with a pleasing standup comedy routine. Recognition went to those retired from GSU the longest, those with the most years at the company prior to retirement, those with the most children and grandchildren and to couples married the longest.

Gulf States President Norman Lee brought a serious note to the retirees, pointing out the changes GSU has gone through in the last decade. Lee singled out the growth in the number of employees, tremendous changes in the regulation of utilities, the influence of computers system-wide and the changing relationships with government agencies.



# Service Award Banquets 1983

## Port Arthur Division



**10 Years:** From left to right: Michael W. Frederick, Larry D. Noland, Sandra C. Hinson, Kent D. Girouard and Nelson M. Leger.

## Lake Charles Division



**10 Years:** Front row, left to right: Wanda S. West, Rebecca R. Watson and Sandra D. Ray. Back row, left to right: Atwood M. Royer, Kenneth T. Duhon, Gary L. Andrus and Richard D. Bozeman.



**20 Years:** Front row, left to right: Olan Richard, Robert C. Hebert and Carl R. Bradley. Back row, left to right: Garland J. Lege, William D. Bates, Paul L. Granger and Allen R. Hebert.



**30 Years:** Front row, left to right: Wilfred St. Julien, Vioris J. Olivier, Edwin Judice, Jean L. Hebert, John R. Robin, Andrew Landry and Alexander Valerie Jr. Back row, left to right: Albert Louviere, Sheldon P. Fruge, Philip E. Kriner, Clyde O. Ingalls, Lawrence J. Menard, Willie Duhon, Alvin A. Trahan and Thomas K. McCrosky Jr.



**40 Years:** From left to right: Clifford E. Chambers, Mrs. Chambers, Mrs. Sanders and Hugh C. Sanders.



**20 Years:** From left to right: Johnnie L. Reed, Fred E. Kressman, Chester O. Draper Jr., Tommy G. Clark, Charles C. Petry and Robert L. Hill.



**30 Years:** From left to right: James F. Hebert, Jack C. Saxon, Horace A. Taylor, Kenneth R. Bridgers and Joseph L. Gallier Jr.

## Baton Rouge Division



**10 Years:** Front row, left to right: Jim Moss, Larry Jolissaint, Jack Winston, Mary Ann Maloney, Jerry Peairs, Sam Raney and Norman Lee. Back row, left to right: Lloyd Engler, Lanny Harris and Clyde Newman.



**20 Years:** Front row, left to right: Jim Moss, Manfield Hollin, Eddie Hills, Ronald Blackburn and Norman Lee. Back row, left to right: Kelton Whitehead, Lawrence Jordan and Jimmy Harvey.



**30 Years:** Front row, left to right: Jim Moss, William Barrow, Eugene Andre, George Moore, Carl Courtney and Norman Lee. Back row, left to right: John Prejean, Terry Hernandez, Carlton Parker, Claude Dake, Nat Thibodeaux and Clayton Thigpen.



**30 Years:** Front row, left to right: Jim Moss, Bill Cahill, Ben Williams, Bobby Hilborn, Harrell Harrison and Norman Lee. Back row, left to right: Henry Toups, James Robinson, Charles Johnson and Henry Green.

## Operating efficiency

# A better way

Text & photos  
by Susan Gilley

**E**fforts to boost operating efficiency and improve safety make up a continuing story at Gulf States — one that involves every employee at every company location.

"We've set improved efficiency as our goal, and it's one that involves every aspect of Gulf States' operations," insists Joe Bondurant, executive vice president-operations. "It embraces every employee and every job from the very beginning in production to the final delivery of the kilowatts to the customer," he continues.

But operating efficiency offers benefits for individual employees, as well as the company as a whole. Besides the satisfaction of helping to keep the company's operations on an even keel, employees benefit from enhanced self-images within their communities.

"The company is its employees," asserts Bondurant. "As an employee, I feel that I benefit from working for a company that is highly regarded within the community where my family lives."

For Gulf States, as for any company, community good will

for that firm results from the feeling that the company is operating safely and efficiently.

The following two stories highlight a few of the efforts from the production and division standpoints. Others will be featured in later issues of *Plain Talks*. Specific story ideas are welcomed by the magazine staff.

## Division Operations

A year ago, the Beaumont Division received one to two calls each week from customers who wanted to know why their new service had been delayed.

In the past half-year or so, neither Wayne Sullins, operating superintendent, nor Jim Davidson, superintendent-consumer services, can recall having received a single such call.

The dramatic improvement resulted from several employees putting their heads together to solve a problem, reveals Davidson.

A job flow committee, made up of several Beaumont Division employees, was formed last September and began studying

the problem of why so many new service requests were delayed. Davidson says he suspected the problem came about because no one was monitoring an application from beginning to end. Since so many different hands eventually touch an application, someone or something needed to keep track of the time.

The special committee recommended developing a computer program that would issue reports that would track applications. In effect, it would "red flag" anything not falling within the proper time frame. A successful program was developed early this year using the Beaumont T&D computer system.

According to Davidson, "From a customer relations standpoint, the new system is invaluable." Employees benefit, too, because the system "helps take the pressure off any individual employee."

The job flow problem and solution process is only one illustration of steps being taken at all levels to enhance operating efficiency.

Sullins, who supervises the traditionally "high exposure" T&D Department, explains that



A



B

A. Willow Glen Station's daily information meetings have helped boost plant operating efficiency.

B. Sid Williams (foreground) and Louis "Joe" Borque make a new service connection in Beaumont.

C. Albert Badie and other Gas Department employees in Baton Rouge are helping carry out an extensive cathodic protection program that has already upgraded safety and efficiency.



C

safety remains the No. 1 consideration. "Safety will not be sacrificed to improve productivity, but sometimes an action taken for safety reasons will improve operating efficiency, too," he insists. The act of reducing lost-time accidents boosts productivity.

A Gas Department project in Baton Rouge is already saving about 360 million cubic feet of gas worth \$1.5 million from line leaks on an annual basis. Our customers benefit directly from this savings.

Floyd Marston, operating superintendent, notes that the cathodic protection program was undertaken in 1972 initially from

a safety point of view which remains the most important aspect. The federal Office of Pipeline Safety and our company were in agreement on the necessity of this required program. As a result, gas losses due to leaks have been reduced from 5 to 10 percent. "Since we've bought 9 million cubic feet per year during this 10-year period, that's bringing a considerable savings," Marston points out. "The cathodic protection program accounts for a large part of the savings, but not all of it," Marston adds. The gas main phase of the project has been completed, but work continues on

the service lines.

"Ways to improve efficiency may seem very obvious to the employee working with a procedure every day, but may go unnoticed by someone with the authority to make a change," comments Sullins. In Beaumont Division, he continues, "We're providing an audience, through safety meetings and the like, where employees can make productivity-related suggestions." Beaumont Division has dubbed this portion of those meetings as "in-put groups."

These are typical of approaches to improving operating efficiency being taken throughout the company.

## Operating efficiency

# Production

Bring up the subject of operating efficiency, and Ed Serwan, GSU's vice president of production, points to Willow Glen Station as a major success story.

Before 1980, the availability rate of the plant's five units dropped to below 60 percent during the five-month peak period of May through September. Now the units are available as much as 90 percent of the peak period.

Plant superintendent Doug Watkins attributes the turnaround to better communications among employees, improved planning and increased emphasis on maintenance.

Willow Glen is only part of the GSU success story, however, since the entire company was cited by the First Boston Corp. of New York as being No. 1 in system efficiency in 1981 among the nation's 75 largest electric utilities. System-wide, GSU reliability has improved 10 percentage points — from 64 percent to 74 percent — on an annual basis since 1980.

Serwan defines operating efficiency as providing power to customers at the least cost. That includes the factors weighed by First Boston (heat rate, load factor, capacity factor and sales per non-construction employee), but it sometimes includes purchasing power for less than it can be produced. Presently, GSU finds it most cost-effective to generate about 80 to 90 percent of its power and to purchase about 10 to 20 percent from other utilities.

The most important factor for achieving operating efficiency is ensuring that units can respond when they are needed, insists Serwan. He agrees that goal may sometimes seem at odds with the aim of providing power at the

lowest cost if a unit must be down for maintenance work during the peak season. Even so, with 27 units in the GSU system, planned maintenance outages usually can be scheduled around the busiest periods.

Operating efficiency has been boosted further by placing more GSU units on load control, thus giving system operators direct control over those units. Another unit — Willow Glen 4 — will be converted to load control in July and August.

GSU practices preventive and predictive maintenance. "With predictive maintenance, the thrust is to avoid big problems and to maximize on-stream time. For example, by monitoring the vibration patterns of a piece of equipment, a problem can be diagnosed at an early stage prior to massive failure," explains Serwan. Preventive maintenance involves the maintenance which can be scheduled much the same as an oil change on your vehicle.

While the machinery for making electricity must run smoothly, the people involved in the process are equally important

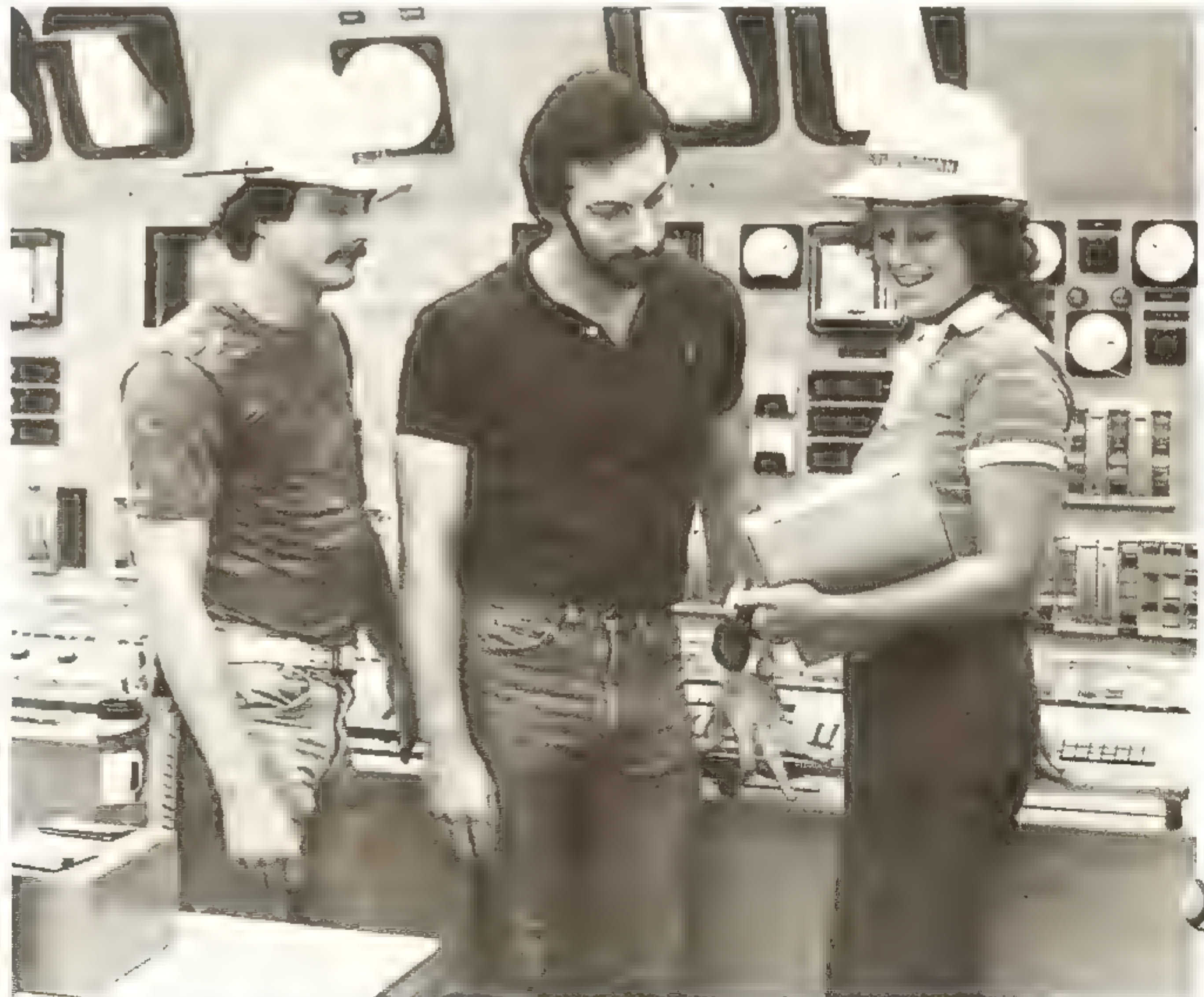
in the effort to increase operating efficiency.

"Employees can save time and money by doing their jobs right and by participating in problem-solving," says Serwan. Watkins found upon his arrival at Willow Glen in 1980 that employees needed training in maintenance procedures. The necessary training and improved channels of communication were keys to the plant's operating improvement.

Daily 15-minute meetings involving all plant management replaced the previous scattershot approach to communications. "If there's a problem, we talk about it. Whatever common resources are needed to solve the problem can be summoned," explains Watkins.

Today, Willow Glen "housekeeping" — an industry term referring to the orderliness and safety of the workplace — reflects employee commitment to operating efficiency.

Unhesitatingly, Watkins describes the change in people and philosophy at the power plant: "We're on top of it at Willow Glen."



At Willow Glen, (from left) Scott Godfrey, equipment operator, Jerry Hubert, control operations foreman, and Colleen Sheehan, results engineer.

# River Bend Station cordially invites you to an Open House



The past and the future blend in St. Francisville, where area residents strive to preserve mementos of the past and GSU works toward meeting the energy needs of the future.

In the historic Mississippi River town, residents have restored stately old plantation homes as symbols of a time when cotton and sugar cane planters in the area were among the wealthiest in the nation.

Just outside the town, Gulf States is building River Bend 1, a 940-megawatt nuclear-fueled generating unit, the company's first nuclear power plant. Fuel loading is expected to take place in early 1985, with the unit going into commercial operation in late 1985.

Andy Dreher, nuclear site communications coordinator, says Gulf States' employees, retirees and their guests may view both the old and the new during the Labor Day weekend, when River Bend Station will host an Open House Monday, Sept. 5, from 8 a.m. until 3 p.m.

Last November, more than 3,500 construction employees and their guests toured the construction site during a similar event, reports Dreher.

During the walk-through tour, visitors will go into the reactor building — a place that will be off-limits after the plant begins operation.

Booths highlighting various technical and safety aspects of River Bend will help tell the plant's story. The River Bend Energy Center, located a short distance from the plant entrance, will be open, too. Designed for persons of all ages, the center offers insight into the many facets of energy and explains how River Bend will help the future demand for electricity.

Visitors to the Open House will be treated to free snacks and beverages, door prizes and favors for the children. Dreher warns that those who participate should not wear high heels or bring baby strollers into the construction area. Employees or retirees should wear GSU badges or carry some form of identification with the company.

During July, each GSU employee and guest will receive an invitation to attend the September event. The detachable portion of the invitation should be returned to Andy Dreher at River Bend no later than Friday, July 29.

Dreher suggests that employees or retirees consider turning their three-day weekend into a mini-vacation, with visits to area tourist attractions. Those who choose to stay overnight at their own expense will find motels and hotels in nearby Baton Rouge and St. Francisville. Further, three St. Francisville restored homes offer overnight accommodations, as well as several in nearby Clinton and Jackson. Natchez, Miss., located a little farther north, offers additional overnight accommodations in antebellum homes. The invitation also lists telephone numbers for area chambers of commerce.



*How to get to River Bend.*

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      STOCK NUMBER- CSPAACCA
MAT.STD.NUM--- 128100
      INVENTORY STATUS---
      XARM WD DIS 3.5"X4.5"X9'

      STOREROOM STATUS
      STOREROOM- 111
      PARENT---

LEAD TIME DAYS- 56
ON HAND----- 1258.000
REQUISITION---- 1400.000
ON ORDER----- .000
UNIT OF MEAS--- EA

TRANSFER PLEDGED IN-- .000
TRANSFER PLEDGED OUT- .000
TRANSFER TRANSIT OUT- .000
TRANSFER TRANSIT IN-- .000
UNIT OF PURCHASE----- EA

CONVERSION FACTOR----- .000

PLANNED IN LEAD TIME--- 1
ORDER POINT----- 300
ECONOMIC ORDER QTY--- 700
MINIMUM QUANTITY----
MAXIMUM QUANTITY----

ON HAND AVAILABLE- 1258
SURPLUS----- 960

SAFETY (RECURR)- ■
STORM-----
EMERGENCY-----
RESERVE-----

OPTION: TRX: 5XZ KEY: CSPAACCA 111
*** SPECIAL PROCESSING COMPLETED SUCCESSFULLY ***

```

*MMS offers more than 200 inquiry screens and a large number of update screens.*

## MMS

# Technology gives Materials

by Susan Gilley

GSU's Materials Management Department recently received what Jim Johnson considers "the ultimate compliment."

A temporary employee at Nelson 6, helping out in the storeroom, successfully used the on-line Materials Management System (MMS) solely with the aid of the instruction manual. No formal training was necessary for that particular job, although full-time employees are given more in-depth training.

That "compliment," insists Johnson, manager-materials management, reflects both the sophistication and simplicity of the computer system.

Considered one of the most advanced materials management systems ever used by an electric

utility, MMS is a closed-loop system with three segments: inventory control, purchasing and accounts payable.

In short, explains Johnson, the system enables the company to make sure "that what we need is what we get" and eases tracking of items until they are used on the job. Perhaps most importantly, it permits centralized control of all materials management activities, while allowing decentralized action in the field.

"That's the best set-up you can have in purchasing," asserts Johnson. It is possible because MMS lets system Materials Management personnel stay abreast of developments throughout the company. One advantage of such a system is lower transportation costs resulting from purchasing from vendors based near the

point of use. At the same time, MMS provides a broader overview that can lead to the most cost-effective management of materials.

According to Dennis Pitman, inventory analyst in Beaumont, "One of the big advantages of this data processing system is the accumulation of accessible information."

When GSU went on-line with MMS in 1979, the company took "a quantum leap" from the old stores ledger system that Johnson says was not "too far removed from the quill and scroll."

First used only for system and division operations, MMS is expanding into the power plants and is preparing to add River Bend — a step that Johnson terms "the next quantum leap."

# Information Center bridges the gap

by T.J. Reyes

The Information Center is more than just sophisticated computers that can create colorful charts and graphs. It serves as a bridge between the experts and those not-so-experienced in computer technology.

Through the Information Center, the Computer Applications department offers a wide range of software training programs that teach employees about software products that will help their department's particular needs. These training programs range in length from a few hours to several months with the goals of increasing productivity and improving their decision-making processes.

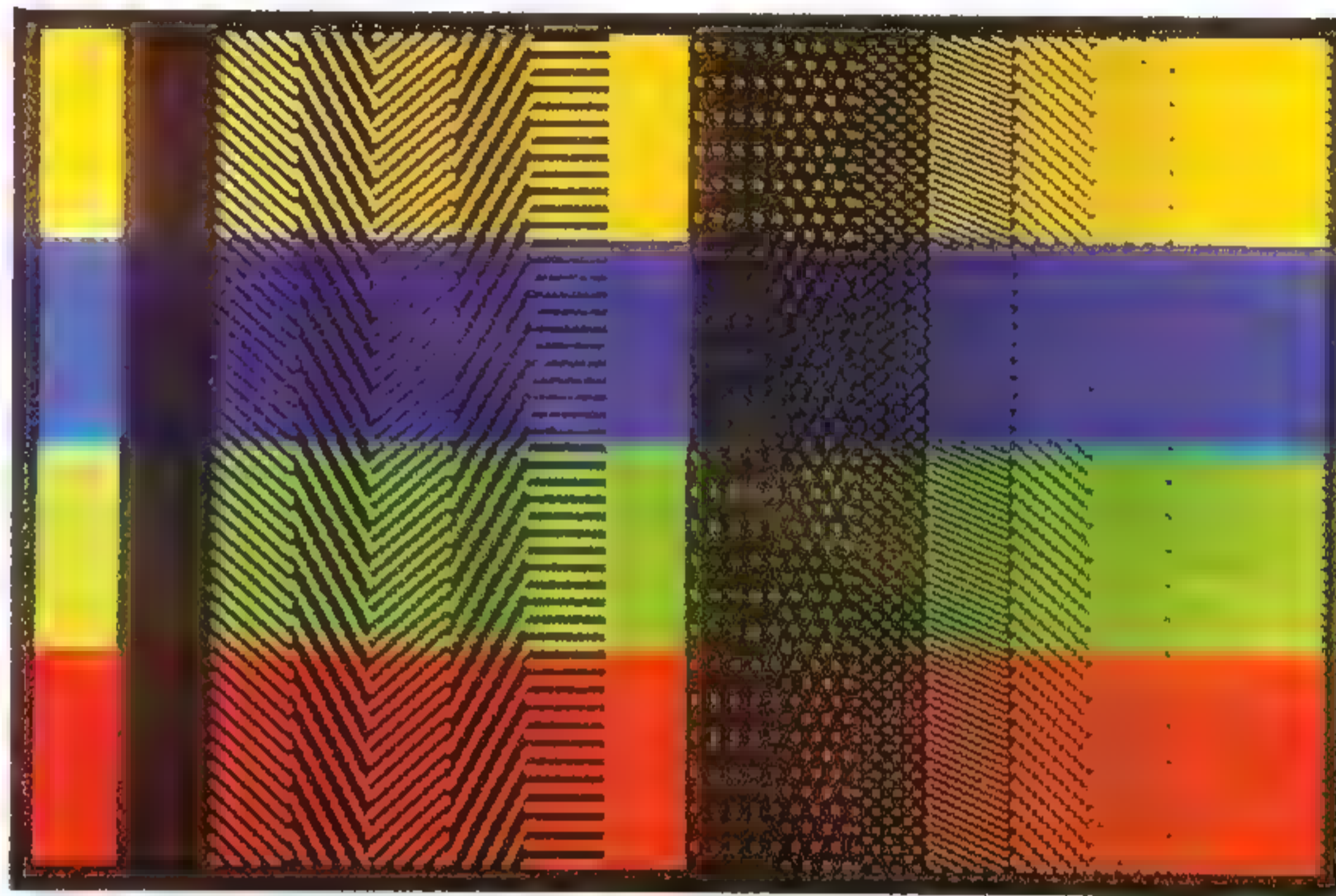
"The people we help vary in the amount of their computer knowledge," according to R. A. Hidalgo, supervisor of the Information Center. "We offer individualized, hands-on training directed at their particular level. It's time well-spent because when they go back to their office, they can help co-workers with their computer questions."

Employees who are not computer wizards can telephone or visit the Information Center with their data

processing questions. The center provides assistance in the form of software products, education, consultation, data management and administrative services for computer users. Analysts who staff the center evaluate new and existing software products for use within Gulf States

and help users by matching their problems with those products.

Also available through the center is the color graphic equipment which includes color crt terminals, color printers and a camera which can make color slides or transparencies of the image on the terminal screen.



## Management leading edge

Johnson says that many utilities have seen the need for utilizing on-line systems for nuclear plants, where personnel must deal with a complexity of documentation requirements. After that need is recognized, those utilities often expand the system to their fossil plants. "The opposite is happening at GSU. A tried and true system will be implemented at River Bend," he points out.

To get an idea of the wide range of items handled by storerooms, consider that a power plant storeroom may stock thousands of consumable items, ranging from paper clips to hand soap, as well as many thousands of spare parts. (For Nelson 6, for example, there are as many as 58,000 items.)

With MMS, all system users speak the same language. A

stock number is allocated for every single item and an "address" is given for its location in each storeroom.

Over 200 inquiry screens are available. For example, the information can be presented as part of a storeroom status report, which helps measure inventory effectiveness. Johnson explains that inventory effectiveness is materials management lingo for in-stock efficiency and an indicator of whether the company is getting the most for its money.

"As far as we're concerned," says Johnson, "a dollar saved for GSU is a dollar saved for the customer." And many thousands of dollars have been saved this year alone.

"We can keep track of all material once GSU purchases it, until it is used on the job." Johnson continues, "Because we

also see all purchase requests before they are approved, we can check around first to see if we have the needed material on hand. If not, then we can find the best way to acquire what we need."

Materials Management also provides a transportation system for transferring material within the company. Around \$325,000 worth of surplus stock items have been transferred this year. This was possible because of MMS.

Johnson and his Materials Management associates keep dreaming of other quantum leaps which MMS may take. "We're never satisfied," insists John Atwood, supervisor of materials planning. "We keep trying to develop MMS more and more. We want the system to be 'user friendly' — all the way."

# ON THE MOVE

## A

**Agnew, David C.**, Beaumont, to staff auditor I, Internal Audit

**Avant, Max C.**, Baton Rouge, to substation mechanic-3rd class, Electric T&D

## B

**Barnes, Paul D.**, Baton Rouge, to lineman-1st class, Electric T&D

**Bealy, Kenneth W.**, Beaumont, to EDP shift supervisor, Computer Applications

**Bell, Ivy L.**, Oak Ridge, to lineman-3rd class, Electric T&D

**Briggs, Robert S.**, Beaumont, to production engineer, System Production

**Broussard, Brenda C.**, Port Arthur, to consumer service representative, Division Consumer Services

**Brown, Roger D.**, formerly of Baton Rouge, to production engineer, System Productions, Nelson Coal Plant

## C

**Canella, Frank J.**, Baton Rouge, to lineman-1st class, Electric T&D

**Cervantes, Tony J.**, Beaumont, to apprentice, Electric T&D

**Cooper, Joseph R.**, Nelson Coal, to electrician-1st class, Plant Production

**Curtis, James M.**, Baton Rouge, to foreman, Gas Department

## D

**Dykes, Ralph L.**, Beaumont, to staff accountant II, Accounting Services

## F

**Ferrari, Peter J. III**, Baton Rouge, to serviceman-1st class, Electric T&D

**Fruge, Troy A.**, Nelson Station, to mechanic helper, Plant Production

## G

**Gallet, Kim A.**, Lafayette, to lineman-3rd class, Electric T&D

**Garrett, Michael W.**, Beaumont, to truckdriver, Electric T&D

**Getz, Ronald G.**, Port Arthur, to master test technician, Plant Production

**Graham, Michael N.**, Willow Glen, to master electrician, Plant Production

## H

**Hamilton, Timothy M.**, Nelson Coal, to electrician-3rd class, Plant Production

**Heffron, Ronald E.**, Beaumont, to civil engineer, System Engineering

**Hennesy, Ricky E.**, Baton Rouge, to lineman-3rd class, Electric T&D

## J

**Jackson, Lawrence R.**, Gonzales, to truckdriver, Electric T&D

**Jackson, Marion N.**, Beaumont, to stenographer-senior, Transmission Planning

**Jones, Paula W.**, Beaumont, to key punch operator-senior, Computer Applications

## K

**Koci, Eugene W.**, formerly of Orange, to coordinator-consumer credit, Division Accounting, Baton Rouge

## L

**Lane, Walter W.**, Port Arthur, to repairman-2nd class, Plant Production

**Lange, LeRoy J. Jr.**, Nelson Coal, to repairman-1st class, Plant Production

## M

**Marks, Carl J.**, Lafayette, to lineman-4th class, Electric T&D

**Matte, Ricky J.**, Lake Charles, to collector, Division Accounting

**McFadden, Alex Jr.**, Baton Rouge, to lineman-4th class, Electric T&D

**Miller, Ronald C.**, Baton Rouge, to lineman-3rd class, Electric T&D

**Minton, Edward K.**, Willow Glen, to test foreman, Plant Production

**Mire, Belinda M.**, Beaumont, to utility worker II, Electric T&D

**Morris, Walter L. Jr.**, Beaumont, to garage worker, Electric T&D

**Mosley, Charles**, Port Arthur, to garage mechanic-1st class, Electric T&D

## N

**New, Kenneth W.**, Baton Rouge, to pipeman welder-3rd class, Gas Department

## P

**Partain, Nathan I.**, Beaumont, to senior budget analyst, River Bend Nuclear Group

**Peters, Dennis J.**, Baton Rouge, to lineman-4th class, Electric T&D

**Pierce, Charmayne S.**, Beaumont, to senior clerk, Division Accounting

## R

**Randall, Darlene S.**, Beaumont, to senior engineering assistant, Engineering Services

**Raven, Hugh A.**, Gonzales, to lineman-2nd class, Electric T&D

**Redmon, Deborah C.**, Beaumont, to senior engineering assistant, Transmission Planning

**Reeves, Clyde R.**, Beaumont, to staff engineer, Consumer Services

**Richard, Terry W.**, Port Arthur, to electrician-2nd class, Plant Production

**Richardson, Samuel W.**, Willow Glen, to electrician-1st class, Plant Production

**Roe, Nathan W.**, Conroe, to substation mechanic 3rd class, Electric T&D

**Romero, Jeffery L.**, Beaumont, to serviceman-4th class, Electric T&D

**Roshto, Arthur D.**, Willow Glen, to test technician-2nd class, Plant Production

## S

**Scallan, Edward J. III.**, Louisiana Station, to electrician-3rd class, Plant Production

**Stelly, Gary P.**, Baton Rouge, to relayman-1st class, Electric T&D

**Suire, Kevin M.**, Willow Glen, to production engineer, System Production

## T

**Thibodeaux, Morris R.**, formerly of Baton Rouge, to communications foreman, T&D Relay & Communications, Conroe

**Thomas, Calvin**, Beaumont, to staff accountant I, Power Plant Engineering & Design

**Thomas, Doris M.**, Beaumont, to expeditor, Materials Management

**Tiefel, Jerry L.**, Beaumont, to director-regulation-Texas & FERC, Rates & Regulatory Affairs

## V

**Vincent, Stafford P.**, Nelson Station, to repairman-1st class, Plant Production

## W

**Wheeler, Daniel E.**, Beaumont, to supervisor-project systems, Computer Applications

**Williamson, Timmy K.**, Beaumont, to staff engineer, Consumer Services

## Z

**Zimmerly, Delbert R.**, formerly of Port Arthur, to operating superintendent, T&D Operations, Lake Charles

## Reed announces weddings



Johnny Reed, repairman-1st class, Sabine Station, has a new son-in-law and a new daughter-in-law.

His daughter, the former Betty Jene Reed, and James Walter Pollard were married May 28 in St. James Missionary Baptist Church in Orange, and honeymooned in Las Vegas.

Wedding bells didn't stop there, however. His son, Johnny Lee Reed married Sonya Elaine Reed July 9, in St. Paul's CME Church in Orange.

Their father has been with GSU for 22 years.



## Bergeron family welcomes arrival

Joseph Chandler Bergeron, son of Mr. and Mrs. Michael Bergeron, was born Oct. 27, 1982. At birth, Chandler weighed 7 pounds, 11 ounces and measured 21¼ inches.

Michael Bergeron, who joined the company in 1981 as a meter reader, makes his home in the Denham Springs district.



## Politics attract Lafayette men

These men work at Gulf States and also make time to be involved with Lafayette community affairs. Among Gulf States employees who hold political offices are: Seated from left to right: John Landry, member of the Regional Planning Commission; J. Harold Beaugh, mayor of Church Point and Robert Domingue, member of the Lafayette City Council. Standing from left to right: Burt Duhon, member of the Broussard City Council; Virgil Fuselier, president of the Regional Planning Commission; Harrison Carlin, member of the Metro Code and Jeff Derouen, Vermillion Parish School Board member.



## Trouard wins bass tournament



Jack P. Trouard, assistant line supervisor, is shown with his prize-winning bass.

The fish won a bass tournament for Jackie, who used his \$13,200 in prize money to buy a new Suburban.

## Engineer receives certification

Steve Hagge recently received his Professional Engineer Registration for the State of Texas. Hagge is an electrical engineer in Power Plant Engineering and Design.

In recognition of receiving his professional engineer's stamp, his co-workers decorated his office.



# Employee Stock Ownership Plan benefits

Remember the Aesop Fable about the tortoise and the hare? They both started out in a race together. The tortoise was so slow, that the hare decided to stop and take a nap. While he slept, the tortoise crept by him and won the race. GSU has an ESOP, too, but it's no fable.

The Employee Stock Ownership Plan is a real benefit to qualified employees working at GSU. ESOP is made possible by the Tax Reduction Act of 1975 and the Tax Reform Act of 1976. These laws encourage ownership of company stock by employees and spur capital investments by business to stimulate the economy and create jobs. GSU's investment in River Bend Nuclear Station is a good example. Under these laws, when GSU invests money in such capital items as River Bend, part of these costs can be deducted from money the company owes the government in income taxes, to give the company an investment tax credit.

Because of the Tax Reduction Act of 1975 and the Tax Reform Act of 1976, GSU can claim additional investment tax credits if it uses this extra money to buy shares of stock for its employees. As a result, GSU's ESOP was established for employees in January 1976. Under the law, the Company can make contributions to the Plan for credits earned in the years 1976 and 1982. Some of these credits have not been utilized at this

time and may be carried forward to future years.

## ESOP 1

The Plan is divided into two parts — ESOP 1 and ESOP 2. ESOP 1 has remained the same since the plan began in 1976. You qualify to participate in ESOP 1 if you completed one year of service during the Plan year (that is, 12 months of service during the year of the Plan in which you worked at least 1,000 hours.)

For each year the Company qualifies, it makes a contribution for its employees. This contribution equals one per cent of the qualified investment claimed by GSU for investment tax credit purposes. The amount may vary from year to year, based on how much the Company has in qualified investment expenditures.

For example, the qualified investment serving as the basis for the 1982 ESOP will be \$520 million. Using that number, one per cent of that amount, or \$5.2 million may be used to buy GSU common stock for employees. The amount of stock each qualified employee receives is based on pay, the ratio of the employee's pay for 1982 to the total pay of all Plan participants (i.e. total earnings from GSU as reported on your W-2 form for 1982). These shares are held in trust for you. When dividends accrue, they are used to buy more GSU stock; and, of course,

you have the right to vote your shares. While there is no guarantee that the price of your stock won't go down, it is also possible that your stock could increase in value over the long term.

## A big decision to make

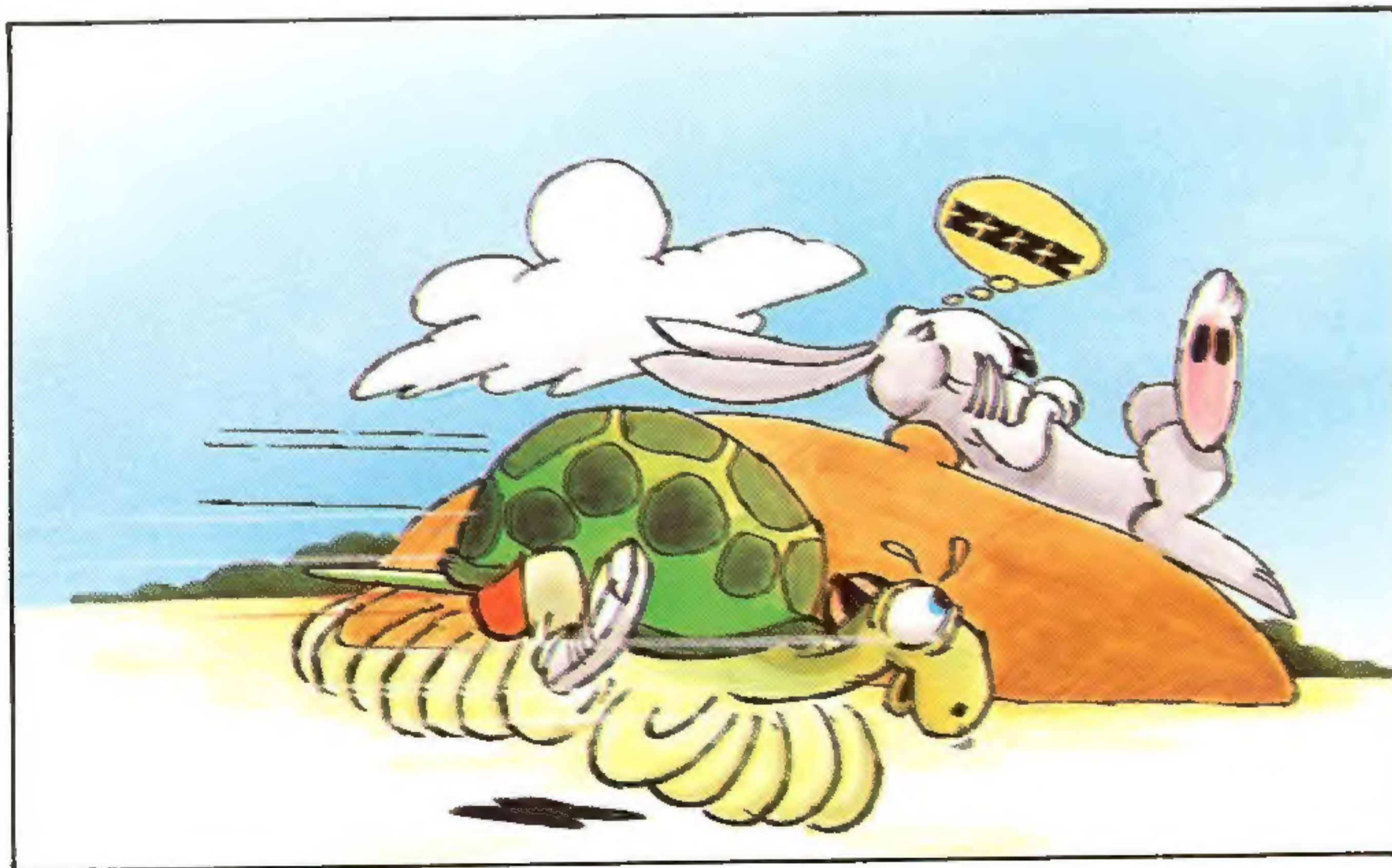
If you continue with GSU, there will be an important decision for you to make after seven years. The big decision is this: After seven years, you may exercise your option to withdraw all your shares which are in the Plan for that year, or you may make the decision to leave your shares in the Plan until you retire. You will have only ONE opportunity to make this decision, and once this decision is made, it cannot be changed. It is important that you think this through carefully, because once this decision is made (and it must be made this fall, for those in the 1976 ESOP Plan) it will automatically apply to all future Plan years.

The Plan's withdrawal provisions are governed by law and admittedly are strict, but another feature of the Plan is quite liberal. You are always one hundred per cent vested. In other words, once the shares are allocated to your account, they belong to you. If you leave GSU or retire, you will receive all the shares in your account. In the event of your death, your beneficiary will receive your shares.

## ESOP 2

ESOP 2 is like ESOP 1 in the following ways: The eligibility rules are the same. GSU common stock is purchased for you and held in the same way. You collect your stock in the same way. ESOP 2 is different in that you can make voluntary contributions up to the limits provided by law. For each dollar you contribute to ESOP 2, GSU will match your contribution dollar for dollar. Also, your share of the Company's contribution to ESOP 2 is determined differently. The amount GSU may contribute to ESOP 2 can equal half of its contribution to ESOP 1, but no more than the total contributed by all ESOP 2 participants.

In other words, assuming that GSU contributed \$5.2 million to ESOP 1 for 1982, GSU can contribute a maximum of \$2.6 million to ESOP 2 for 1982. But it's not quite



## GSUers

by Betty Gavora

that simple. Under ESOP 2, the Company matches your contribution, dollar for dollar. To do this, it becomes necessary for GSU to know how much all of its eligible employees want to contribute to ESOP 2. To find this out, the Company sends an election form to eligible participants. When all these forms are completed and returned to the Plan Administrator, the Company will determine if it has enough investment tax credits available to match the desired contributions from those employees. If it does, each employee will contribute the requested amount. If it does not, the contributions of eligible participants will be reduced to stay within the dollar-for-dollar match. Whether or not you wish to participate, it is essential that all employees return the ESOP 2 Election of Contribution forms to the Payroll Department, 13th Floor, Edison Plaza, by **no later than August 31**. Employees electing to participate in ESOP 2 have three contribution options: (1) in a single lump sum payment by the end of 1983, (2) by payroll deductions from January 1984 through October 1984, or (3) by making a partial payment by the end of 1983, with the remainder being payroll deducted in 1984.

ESOP 1 and ESOP 2 are not fables, but important parts of your employee benefits program and good reasons why you really do have a stake in the future of GSU.

### Example of an ESOP 1 Allocation

\$25,000	Your pay
\$114,000,000	Eligible gross payroll earned by all participants

$\$25,000 \div \$114,000,000 = .0002$

You would get .0002 of the Company contribution of \$5,200,00

$\$5,200,000 \times .0002 = \$1,040$

That \$1,040 would be used to buy Gulf States stock. With stock selling at \$14.50 a share, you would receive about 71.72 shares.



## Hebert receives Lifesaving Award

Last Oct. 14, Joe and Marilyn Gail Hebert were enjoying a dinner at Willow Glen Station when Mrs. Hebert suddenly began choking on her food.

Her quick-thinking husband, a repairman-1st class at the plant, applied the Heimlich maneuver and dislodged the object.

As a result of his action, Hebert recently received GSU's highest safety honor, the President's Lifesaving Award. During the presentation, President Norman Lee commented, "It pleases me greatly to present this award. This is the highest award I can give, as it represents the action taken by an individual in saving another's life."

## Ledet donates kidney

Nathaniel P. Ledet donated one of his kidneys to his brother in order to save his life.

Previously, Ledet's brother had to stay in the hospital every day for treatment on a dialysis machine.

Ledet is a mechanic-2nd class at Lake Charles maintenance garage and has been with Gulf States four years.

Both Nathaniel and his brother are now fully recovered and doing well.

## Bob Robertson dies June 17

Bob J. Robertson, 77, who retired from Gulf States July 1, 1971, died June 17 at St. Elizabeth's Hospital. Funeral services were held June 20, with burial in Forest Lawn Memorial Park.

A native of Philadelphia, Pa., and a former resident of Baton Rouge, La., he lived in Beaumont 23 years. Robertson was a general manager of production.

Survivors include his wife, Cadell Robertson of Beaumont; a daughter, Dell Sherwin of Shreveport, La.; and two grandchildren.

## Hammond elected to Board

Ellery Hammond, plant manager-River Bend Nuclear Plant, has been elected to the board of directors of Junior Achievement in Baton Rouge. His term began in June.

Presently, the Board of Directors is planning new programs for the next school year.

Hammond has been with GSU since November 1980. He has his bachelor of science degree in mechanical engineering and a master's degree from Northeast University in Boston.



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